

A man with short grey hair, wearing a light blue t-shirt, is playing a blue electric bass guitar. He is looking down at the instrument. The background is a plain, light color.

 TalkingBass

Beginner Bass Guitar

Course Breakdown
and FAQ



Beginner Bass Guitar

Course Breakdown

Lesson #1: Absolute Basics

Welcome to your very first bass lesson! In this introductory video we look at the anatomy of the bass, amplifier basics, how to tune up and play a simple bass riff.

Lesson #2: The Fretting Hand

Now we've covered the absolute basics of playing, let's develop the fretting hand a little more. We'll work on crossing strings and spreading the fingers a little with some more simple bass riffs!

Lesson #3: Navigating The Fretboard

The bass fretboard can seem a little daunting to the complete beginner. In this lesson we'll look at some navigational aids and methods for reading/writing bass music.

Lesson #4: Rhythm Basics

The notes of a bass line are nothing without rhythm. In this lesson we'll cover the basics of counting and subdividing before applying them in the shape of a simple bass line.

Lesson #5: Notes On The Neck

As with any instrument, it's important to learn the actual notes under our fingers. In this lesson we'll learn about the basic elements of pitch and then use the fret markers as a guide in building our map of the fretboard.

Lesson #6: Muting & Technique

Choking and muting are essential techniques to master in playing the bass guitar. In this lesson we'll look at how to develop note control while working from a basic foundation of silence.

Lesson #7: Two Finger Picking

In previous lessons we've only used a single finger to pluck the strings. Now let's introduce a second finger in order to develop some more speed and facility.

Lesson #8: The Major Scale

In this final lesson we look the role of the bass in a band, how to play through a chord chart, play with a drummer, read tablature and we also look at how you can proceed with your playing development beyond this course.

Lesson #9: 5 Simple Riffs

Now let's combine all the skills we've learned so far in learning 5 simple bass riffs

Lesson #10: The Next Step

In this final lesson of the course we'll look at how to take the next step in your bass journey. We'll cover the function of a bass in a band setting and how to practice

Beginner Bass Guitar

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Beginner Bass Guitar?

Beginner Bass Guitar is a progressive, ten lesson, step-by-step guide to getting started on the bass guitar.

What level of player is the course aimed at?

Beginner Bass Guitar is aimed at absolute beginners and players who have only been playing a while but possibly need a little more guidance in the foundational aspects of the instrument.

What Will I Learn?

You will learn all the basic skills required to get started on the road to becoming a well-rounded bass player. You'll learn how to hold the bass, tune the bass, learn the notes on the fretboard, fingerpicking techniques, plectrum technique and you'll also receive important tips on what and how to practice as you develop your skills.

How Long Are The Video Lessons?

The lessons vary in length but the complete course is over two and hours long and spread over ten lessons.

How is the course presented? Do I Download Anything?

Beginner Bass Guitar is hosted on the Talkingbass website so there are no video files to download. There are two downloads within the course:

- **The Beginner Bass Guitar Workbook:** 32 page lesson-by-lesson work through of all the course material
- **Tuning Reference Tones:** These are the tones used in the course as a reference when tuning the bass